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centa basilar but apparently attached to the partition, ovules six or seven in each cell. The upper part of the ovary was composed of small sacs opening into the common cavity. The apex of the ovules apparently projected into these sacs. A section near the top of the ovary had the appearance of being many celled. There were seven stigmas. The flower was larger than those of the normal form. The upper flower, which was in bud, had two sepals, seven petals, and seven stamens. The pistil, though small, was apparently normal.—F. L. HARVEY, *Fayetteville, Ark., April 12.*

New Species of Andropogon.—Prof. E. Hackel, who is preparing a Monograph of the *Andropogoneæ*, recognizes the following new species in the genus *Andropogon*, and publishes them with admirable descriptions in "Flora" (oder allgemeine botanische Zeitung) for 1885. Four of the species, as indicated in the list, are North American.

Sect. *Schizachyrium.*

1. Andropogon urceolatus.
2. A. nodulosus.
3. A. obliquiberbis.
4. A. Schweinfurthii.
5. A. cirratus. (Western Texas and New Mexico, nos. 804 and 2105, C. Wright. Silver City, E. L. Greene.)
6. A. imberbis.
7. A. gracilipes.
8. A. Cubensis.

Sect. *Heteropogon.*

9. A. leptocladus.
10. A. Bellariensis.

Sect. *Cymbopogon.*

11. A. diplandrus.
12. A. Barteri.
13. A. macrolepis.
14. A. cornucopiæ.
15. A. grandiflorus.

Sect. *Arthrolepis.*

16. A. longiberbis. (Florida, leg. Garber, Curtiss.)
17. A. Liebmanni.
18. A. Cabanisii. (Pennsylvania, Florida, leg. Cabanis—in Herb. reg. Berolin. Florida near Apalachicola, leg. Chapman.)
19. A. Bourgæi.
20. A. arenarius.
21. A. exaratus.
22. A. madagascariensis.
23. A. annuus.
24. A. longipes.

Sect. *Amphilophis.*

25. A. Wrightii. (New Mexico, no. 2104, C. Wright, 1851–52.)
26. A. asperifolius.
27. A. Hildebrandtii.

Sect. *Sorghum.*

28. A. bipennatus.

—F. L. SCRIBNER.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DR. W. G. FARLOW is to give the fourth lecture in the course before the San Diego Society of Natural History, California.

MESSRS. C. R. AND J. H. ORCUTT will soon start on a botanical trip through Lower California, and Rev. E. L. Greene will explore the islands near the coast.

THE DEUTSCHE BOTANISCHE MONATSSCHRIFT, edited by Dr. Leimbach, has entered upon its third year enlarged and improved. It is an excellent local journal.

PROF. T. C. ARCHER, director of the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art, and well known to American students as the author of a Handbook of Economic Botany, died on February 19.

HEDWIGIA comes to us enlarged, better printed and with a cover, and on the whole looking much like an American publication. We do not doubt that the high position it has held among cryptogamic journals will be proportionally advanced by this change.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA has made an appropriation of five thousand dollars for procuring apparatus and collections for its department of botany. It is needless to say that with such liberality Prof Bessey will soon have one of the best laboratories in the country.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION for the Advancement of Science will hold its next meeting at Ann Arbor, Mich., beginning August 26. Special arrangements for the entertainment of the botanists have already been begun. Let those who contemplate attending prepare one or more well digested papers as a contribution to the success of the meeting.

IN THE LXXXIX. Bande der Sitzb. der k. Akad. d. Wissensch. I. Abth. März. Heft. Jahrg. 1884, Prof. E. Hackel of St. Pölten, Austria, describes the following new species of grasses, two of which, from Madagascar, form the proposed new genus *Pœcilostachys: Arundinellœ stipoides, Arthropogon stipitatus, Andropogon Hallii* (No. 651 Hall & Harbour Rocky Mt. coll. 1862.) *Stipa Regeliana, Pœcilostachys Hildebrandtii, P. geminata.*

PROFESSOR J. C. ARTHUR has been appointed botanist to the Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota, and will conduct the botanical survey of the State. This will include a study of the cryptogamic as well as the flowering plants, and is to be substantiated by a suitable herbarium. The work will extend through several years, and be terminated by the publication of final reports corresponding to those of the other departments of the survey.

IN ENGLER'S BOTANISCHEN JAHRBUCHERN (VI. Band 3 Heft. 1885) Prof. E. Hackel gives, in a paper of 15 pp., his elaboration of the *Gramineœ* collected by Dr. Naumann on the Expedition of Her Majesty's Ship "Gazelle." Six new species, one of which constitutes a new genus—*Anadelphia*—are proposed, viz., *Panicum tabulatum, Chamœraphis gracilis, Andropogon superciliatus, Anadelphia virgata, Agrostis paucinodes,* and *Chloris pallida.* The synonyms given and authorities quoted together with the numerous critical notes make this paper an especially valuable one to Agrostologists.

MR. MEEHAN, at a recent meeting of the Philadelphia Academy, displayed a specimen of *Cypripedium insigne* with spicate inflorescence. In addition to this there were other marked differences from the type in the structure of the flower, and Mr. Meehan suggested the thought that perhaps in some such way new species may have been formed, for the differences in these abnormal cases are sufficient to entitle to specific rank "if they were constantly produced in a separate state." The "if" is rather a large one in this case, but surely the method would have the merit of accounting for exceedingly rapid evolution.

Mr. F. Lamson Scribner has published a revision of the North American *Melicæ* in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy. The genus is divided into three sections, Glyceriæ (3 species), Eumelica (8 species), and Bromelica (4 species). The five new species proposed are (1) *M. Torreyana* (separated from *M. imperfecta* Trin.) from California, (2) *M. frutescens* from the same State, (3) *M. spectabile* (*M. bulbosa* of Bot. King's Exp. and Fl. Colorado), (4) *M. Californica* (*M. bulbosa*, Thurber, in Bot. Calif.), and (5) *M. subulata* (*Bromus subulatus?* *M. acuminata* of Bot. Calif.) *M. mutica*, var. *diffusa* is raised to specific rank as *M. diffusa*, Pursh. *M. Porteri*, Scribner, includes *M. mutica*, var. *parviflora* of Fl. Colorado, and *M. stricta* of Brandegee's Fl. S. W. Col. *M. mutica*, var. *glabra* of Gray's Manual is *M. mutica*, Walt. A full list of localities and collectors completes this excellent paper.

In the *Journal of Botany* for April Thomas Hick describes (with plate) protoplasmic continuity in *Fucaceæ*. *Ascophyllum nodosum* is the form chiefly described. All the methods of treatment are given so that confirmatory work is made very easy. In every case at the ends of the cells concerned there is an annular thickening on the internal wall, which is unlike the cell wall under the action of reagents, and seems to resist the action of the strongest acids and alkalies. Four types of continuity are given, viz., (1) the ring surrounds a comparatively wide and open pore, through which the protoplasm is continuous in a single thread; (2) a delicate diaphragm stretches across the space enclosed by the ring, and through this the protoplasm is continuous, as through a sieve plate, by a number of delicate threads (the commonest form); (3) like the second, except that the continuity is effected by a thin and delicate ribbon of protoplasm, which passes through a narrow slit in the diaphragm; (4) the diaphragm is complete except at the center, where is an extremely minute pore, through which a single delicate strand of protoplasm maintains the continuity.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

A Course of Practical Instruction in Botany; Part I. Phanerogamæ-Pteridophyta. By F. O. Bower, M. A., F. L. S., and Sidney H. Vines, M. A. D. Sc., F. L. S., with a preface by W. T. Thiselton Dyer. Macmillan & Co., London, 1885. 12°. 226 pp.

Ten years ago Huxley and Martin's Elementary Biology was published. It was the first laboratory manual of the kind, and the excellency of its conception is well attested in the numerous works after the same pattern which have since appeared. Up to the present these have been confined to zoölogy, although the model included botany also. The work before us belongs to this class of text-books, and, as we learn from the preface, its inception reaches back to Professor Huxley's own laboratory and methods, and even antedates his work. Mr. Thiselton Dyer was at that time giving instruction at what is now the Normal School of Science at South Kensington, and assisted in the preparation of the botanical part of Huxley and Martin's book. The methods which he found so valuable have been adopted by his successor, Mr. F. O. Bower, to to whom, with the assistance of Dr. Vines, of Christ's College, we are indebted